

REMARKSAmendments

In the descriptive part of the specification and in the Abstract, various minor errors have been corrected. A paragraph originally located at page 12, line 1 has been moved to page 13, following line 20 to more closely follow preferred U.S. practice. A reference to this application being the national stage of a PCT application has been added.

In the claims, new dependent claims 3 to 18 have been added. Basis for new claims 3 to 5 is found on page 9, lines 3 to 7; for claims 6 and 7 on page 8, lines 20 to 23; for claims 8 to 13 on page 7, lines 7 to 15; claims 14 to 17 on page 9, lines 12 to 22 and page 11, lines 23 to 25; and claim 18 on page 10, lines 17 to 19.

Disclosure Under 37 CFR § 1.56

In fulfilling the duty of candor and good faith, the following documents are hereby disclosed to the Patent Office in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56. It is not admitted that the information in the listed documents is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b). The Examiner is requested to consider the documents in the examination of this application.

Accompanying this statement is a Form PTO-1449 in duplicate on which the documents are listed. The Examiner is requested to return an initialed and signed copy of the form once the documents have been considered.

The following documents were cited by the Japanese Patent Office in the International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/JP2004/009076, which is a counterpart for this application. Both documents were cited in category "Y" as a "document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art". A copy of the International Search Report is attached.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Sub-class</u>	<u>Translation enclosed (?)</u>	<u>Category</u>
10-256409 A	09/25/1998	Japan	H01L	23/02	Abstract	Y
10-270217 A	10/09/1998	Japan	H01C	7/13	Abstract	Y

10/562277

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The following additional document was referred to in the specification.

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Sub- class</u>	<u>Translation enclosed (?)</u>
06-163203 A	10/09/1998	Japan	H01C	7/02	Abstract

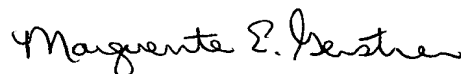
Copies of Documents

A copy of each of the listed documents is attached.

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action at an early date is earnestly requested. If, however, there are any outstanding issues which can be usefully discussed by telephone, the Examiner is asked to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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